



Pre-Production Classes: Coming to a Screen Near You

Sharpen your pencils: You can pick up all kinds of practical skills from our popular MediaMasters classes for Iowa filmmakers. Each 2-hour session starts at 10 a.m. on a Saturday, so mark your calendars – and sign up soon! Even though the classes are online, we're keeping them small to make sure everyone gets some face time with the experts.

Oct. 17: Developing Docs & Digitals

Development executive Kevin Christoffersen is back by popular demand to lead another MediaMasters workshop. He'll recap his presentation from this past spring, "Creating an Investor-Ready Package," to offer tips on film financing and building connections with potential investors. Then he'll dig into the process of packaging documentaries, as well as reality and digital series. Plus, register before this Saturday and you'll be able to get his professional feedback on your pitch materials.

Oct. 24: Working with Talent

Have you ever felt intimidated to work with SAG-AFTRA talent because of all the rules and paperwork? Well, breathe easy: We found two experts who can help. Maureen O'Brien, the executive director of the SAG-AFTRA Missouri Valley Local, will answer your union talent questions, and casting director Joni Tackett will explain how to conduct a casting session to find that perfect person for your scripts.

Nov. 7: Producing Like a Pro

Actors and directors tend to get all the credit, but the producer is one of the most important positions of any film or media production. Find out what producers do from someone who does it: producer and Ames native Nicolaas Bertelsen. He'll share tips to navigate all the creative, financial and physical logistics of producing a successful feature film. Plus, participants will practice how to break down a script to make smart decisions about the budget.

[REGISTER ONLINE](#)

MediaMaker: Justin Norman



[SEE THE INTERVIEW](#)

This month's MediaMaker spotlight shines on Justin Norman of Des Moines. He first jumped into filmmaking 10 years ago during the [48 Hour Film Project Des Moines](#) and stuck with it, learning lots of skills along the way. He learned so much, in fact, that he recently received one of our Greenlight Grants for a new project.

By the way, the Greenlight Grants are already starting to boost Iowa's film industry in promising ways. Listen to grantee [Graham Swon's excellent interview](#) from earlier this week on Iowa Public Radio, and read [our latest blog](#).

48 Hour Film Project

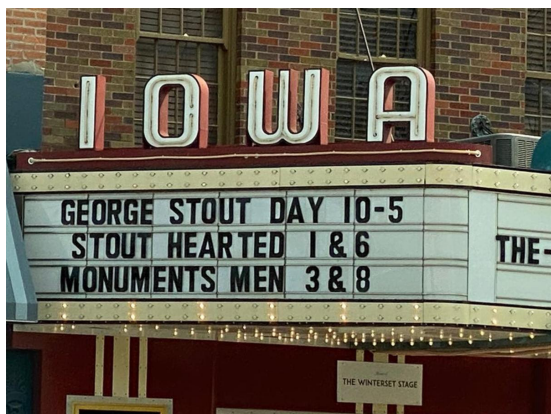
Join the 48 Hour Film Project Des Moines for its 2020 Premiere Screenings. Watch and vote for the films made in just 48 hours. Screening Group A screens tonight (10/7) and Screening Group B tomorrow night (10/8). New films each night at 48hourfilm.desmoines. The viewer will appear just before show time and you can purchase your ticket right in the viewer. Ballots for the audience choice award will be emailed to you shortly after you complete your purchase. Then save the date and stay tuned for details on the Best of the City Screening and Awards on Oct. 23.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Winterset's 'Monument Man,' George Stout, Honored

George Stout – portrayed by George Clooney in "The Monuments Men" – was honored during a ceremony Monday in his hometown of Winterset. Gov. Kim Reynolds proclaimed Oct. 5 as "George Stout Day," and the Iowa Theater screened "The Monuments Men" and the award-winning documentary "Stout



Hearted," directed by Kevin Kelley and Marie Wilkes. They attended the ceremony along with Stout's granddaughter Leslie Marks. Stout (1897-1978) is the original 'Monument Man' who saved thousands of pieces of art in Europe after World War II. He is considered the founder of art conservation.

Pictured: Iowa documentary filmmakers Marie Wilkes and Kevin Kelley.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Upcoming Events

Oct. 7: [48 Hour Film Project Des Moines Group A screening](#)

Oct. 8: [48 Hour Film Project Des Moines Group B screening](#)

Oct. 17: [MediaMasters: Developing Docs & Digitals](#)

Oct. 23: [48 Hour Film Project Best of Des Moines Screening](#)

Oct. 24: [MediaMasters: Working with Talent](#)

Nov. 7: [MediaMasters: Producing Like a Pro](#)

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